

CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

- 1 1. A digital camera, comprising:
2 a photosensor to capture an image of a bar code comprising audio information;
3 a processor to determine audio information from the captured image of the bar
4 code; and
5 a speaker to generate audible sound corresponding to the determined audio
6 information.

- 1 2. The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising a memory wherein
2 logic resides, the logic for determining the audio information from the captured image
3 of the bar code when the logic is executed by the processor.

- 1 3. The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising a microphone to
2 detect audible sound and to generate electronic information such that the processor
3 determines a bar code corresponding to the detected audible sound.

- 1 4. The digital camera of claim 4, further comprising a memory wherein
2 logic resides, the logic for determining the bar code corresponding to the detected
3 audible sound when the logic is executed by the processor.

- 1 5. The digital camera of claim 4, further comprising means for
2 communicating the bar code to a means for printing, such that the bar code is printed.

1 6. A method for retrieving audio information with a digital camera, the
2 method comprising the steps of:
3 capturing an image of a bar code with the digital camera;
4 determining audio information corresponding to the captured image of the bar
5 code with the digital camera; and
6 generating an audible sound corresponding to the determined audio
7 information with an audio reproduction device residing in the digital camera.

1 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of communicating
2 the determined audio information to the audio reproduction device such that an
3 audible sound corresponding to the determined audio information is generated by the
4 audio reproduction device.

1 8. The method of claim 6, wherein the audio reproduction device is an
2 electro-audio transducer.

1 9. The method of claim 6, wherein the audio reproduction device is a
2 speaker.

1 10. The method of claim 6, wherein determining audio information further
2 comprises the step of executing logic with a processor residing in the digital camera,
3 the logic for determining the audio information from the captured image of the bar
4 code when the logic is executed by the processor.

1 12. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of retrieving the
2 logic from a memory residing in the digital camera.

1 13. The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 detecting new audio information; and
3 processing the detected new audio information into a new bar code.

1 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:
2 communicating the new bar code to the printer; and
3 printing the new bar code.

1 15. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step generating a
2 caption corresponding to the new bar code such that the caption and the new bar code
3 are printed together.

1 16. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of capturing the image of the
2 bar code further comprises capturing the image of the bar code selected from a group
3 consisting of a one dimensional (1-D) bar code, a two dimensional (2-D) bar code and
4 a three dimensional (3-D) bar code.

1 17. A system for retrieving audio information with a digital camera,
2 comprising:
3 means for capturing an image of a bar code with the digital camera;
4 means for processing the captured image of the bar code into digital data;
5 means for determining audio information from the digital data; and
6 means for generating an audible sound corresponding to the determined audio
7 information.

1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the means for determining audio
2 information further comprises means for executing logic, the means for executing
3 residing in the digital camera, and the logic for determining the audio information
4 from the captured image of the bar code when the logic is executed.

1 19. A computer-readable medium having a program for retrieving audio
2 information with a digital camera, the program comprising logic to perform the steps
3 of:
4 determining audio information from a captured image of a printed bar code;
5 communicating the determined audio information to a speaker such that an
6 audible sound corresponding to the determined audio information is generated by the
7 speaker.

1 20. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, further comprising logic
2 for:
3 receiving captured image data corresponding to the bar code from a
4 photosensor residing in the digital camera;
5 generating an audio signal corresponding to the audio information; and
6 communicating the audio signal to the speaker.

1 21. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, further comprising logic
2 for capturing an image of the printed bar code.